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GIVEN IN MEMORY OF
LIONEL DE JERSEY HARVARD
CLASS OF 1915

KILLED IN ACTION

BOISLEUX-AU-MONT, FRANCE

MARCH 30, 1918

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Characters
UPON ESSAIES

MORALL, AND

DIUINE,

William

Effigie of the Author

WRITTEN

For those good Spirits,
that will take them
in good part,

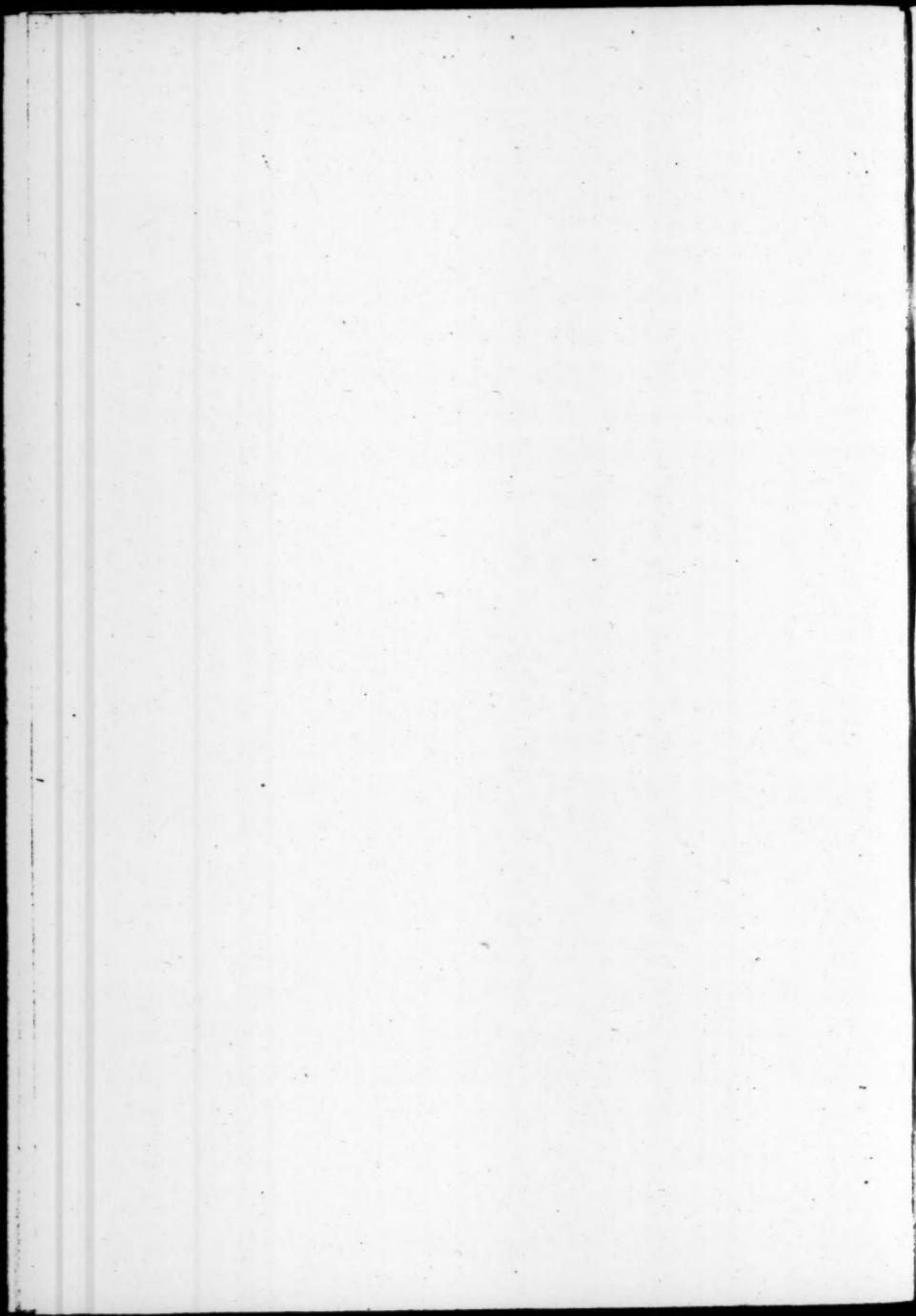
AND

Make use of them to
good purpose.



LONDON

Printed by Edw. Griffin, for John Gwillim,
and are to be sold at his shop in
Britaines-Burse. 1615.





TO THE HO-
norable, and my much
Worthy honored, truly learned,
and Iudicious Knight,
Sr Francis Bacon,
his Maties Attourney
Generall,

Increase of honor, health,
and eternall happinesse.

W O R T H Y
Knight, I
haue read
of many
Essaies, and a kinde of
A 3 Ch-

The Epistle

Charactering of them,
by such, as when I
lookt into the forme, or
nature of their wri-
ting, I haue beene of
the conceit, that they
were but Imitators of
your breaking the ice
to their inuention ;
which, how short they
fall of your worth, I
had rather thinke then
speake, though Truth
neede not blush at her
blame :

Dedicatorie.

blame : Now , for my
selfe vnworthy to
touch neere the Rocke
of those Diamonds , or
to speake in their
praise , who so farre
exceede the power of
my capacitie , vouch-
safe me leaue yet , I be-
seech you , among
those Apes that would
counterfet the actions
of men , to play the like
part with learning , and

A 4 as

The Epistle
as a Monkey, that
would make a face like
a Man, and cannot, so
to write like a Scholler,
and am not: and thus
not daring to aduen-
ture the Print, vnder
your Patronage, with-
out your fauourable
allowance, in the de-
uoted seruice of my
bounden duty, I leaue
these poore Trauells
of my Spirit, to the
perusing

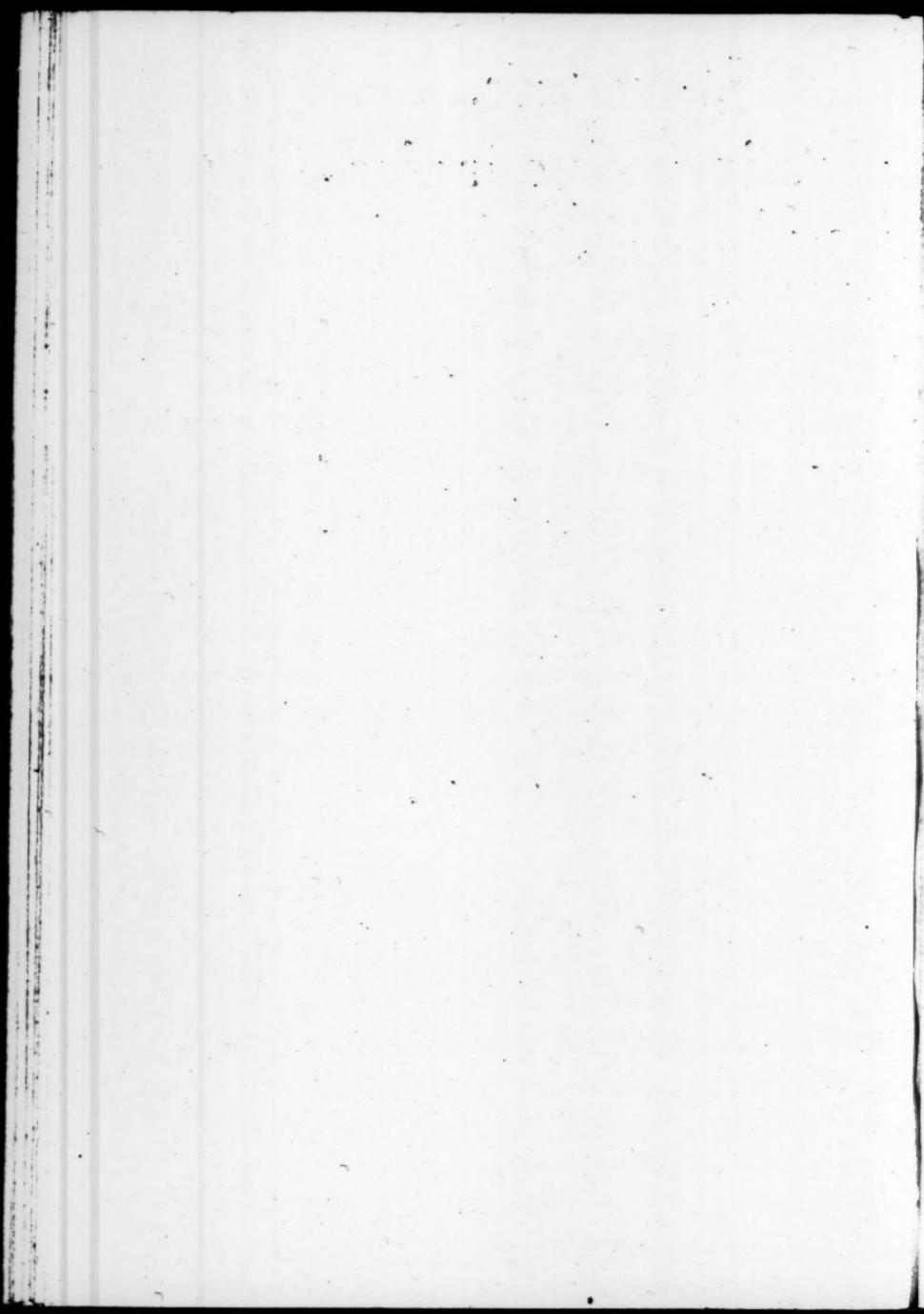
Dedicatore.

perusing of your pleasing pleasure, with the further fruites of my humble affection, to the happie employment of your honorable pleasure.

At your seruice

in all humblenesse

NICH: BRETON.





To the Reader.

BEAD what you list,
and understand what
you can : Characters
are not every mans
construction, though
they be writ in our mother tongue :
and what I haue written, being of no
other nature, if they fit not your hu-
mor, they may please a better : I
make no comparison, because I know
you not, but if you will vouchsafe to
looke into them, it may bee you may
 finde something in them ; their na-
tures are divers, as you may see, if
your eyes bee open, and if you can
make use of them to good purpose,

you

your wits may proone the better :
In briefe, fearing the foole will bee
put upon me, for being too busie with
matters too farre aboue my under-
standing, I will leaue my imperfe-
ction to pardon, or correction, and
my labour to their liking, that will
not thinke ill of a well meaning : and
so rest

Your well-willing friend,

N. B.



Ad Authorem.

HE that shall read thy char-
acters (*Nis: Breton*)
And weigh them well; must say
they are well written.

They taste the lampe: much rea-
ding, obseruation,
Art, matter, wit, all worthy com-
mendation.

Some weau their lines of such a
slender thred,
They will not last so long, as to be
read.

Thou hast so spunne, so weau'd;
thy words, thy lines
They please vs most being viewd,
a hundred times.

W.D.

IN LAUDEM OPERIS.

WOrds are the pensils, whereby drawne
we finde
The picture of the inward man, the
minde.
Such thoughts, such words; such words, such
is the man.
Say; is this Spirit a Plebey-
an?
That like the singing Larke doth monnt
so high,
We cannot reach them with an earthly
eye.

W. P.

W^Hile F^Essy to character this Booke,
And this character d^Essy is o^Eclooke:
Therein finde few words, great worth in value:
A Liffian stile, terse P^Rrase: and so resolute,
That as a Stone's best valu'd, and best prised,
When best is knowne: so thus, when best revised.

I. B.

WHO READS THIS BOOKE WITH A
 indicious eye,
WILL IN TRUE JUDGMENT, TRUE DISCRETION
 try,
WHERE WORDS AND MATTER CLOSE AND
 sweetly coucht,
DOE SHEW HOW TRUTH, WIT, ART, AND
 nature toucht.
WHAT NEED MORE WORDS THESE CHARA-
 CTERS TO PRAISE,
THEY ARE THE TRUE CHARACTERING OF
 ESSAYS.

I. R.

IN WORDS OF WORTH, TO SPEAKE OF
 THESE ESSAYS
LET THIS SUFFICE, THE WORKE IT SELFE
 WILL PRAISE.

C. N.

Some haue an humor, that to dis-
commend
They know themselves, they know not
how to mend.
Other correct, what they doe thinke
amisse:
While in their owne conceit the
error is.
But true iudicious wits, and honest
mindes,
Will giue their censure in some better
kindes:
And say but truth, that cannot be
mooke:
Wit hath welllabourde learning in
this Booke.

R. B.



Wisedome.

WISEDOME is a working Grace in the Soules of the Elect : by whom the Spirit is made capable of those secrets, that neither Nature, nor Reason, is able to comprehend : who, by a powerfull vertue, She hath from the diuine Essence, worketh in all things, according to the will of the Almighty : and, being, before beginning, shall exceede Time, in an eternall proceeding : She is a Light, in the Intellectuall part, by which Reason is led to direct the Sences in their due Course, and Nature is preserued

B From

from Subjecting her selfe to Imperfection : in the Creation, Shee was of Councell with the Trinitie, in the pleasing of the Deity, in the Redemption , the Inuenter of Mercy, for, the preseruation of the Elect , and in the Glorification, the Treasurer of life , for the reward of the fafhfull, who, hauing committed to her Care, the cariage of the whole Motion, finding the disposition of earth in all the Children of her Wombe, by such a Measure , as she findes fitting their qualitie, she giues them either the grace of Nature, or the glory of Reason : While being the Mother of the Graces, Shee giues them that holy Instruction, that, in the knowledge of the highest Loue , thorough the pathes of Vertue, makes a passage to Heauen : Learning hath from her, that knowledge without the which,

which, all knowledge, is mere
Ignorance: while, onely, in the
Grace of Truth, is seene the Glo-
rie of vnderstanding: Know-
ledge hath from Her that Lear-
ning, whereby, she is taught the
direction of her Loue, in the way
of life: Vnderstanding hath from
her that Knowledge, that keepes
Conceit, alwaies in the Spirits
comfort: and Judgement, from
Vnderstanding, that Rule of
Iustice, that by the euen waight
of Impartiality, shewes the hand
of Heauen in the heart of Huma-
nitie: in the Heauens, She keepes
the Angels in their orders, teach-
eth them the Natures of their
Offices, and employes them in the
seruice of their Creator: in the
Firmament, She walkes among
the Starres, sets, and keepes them,
in their places, courses, and ope-
rations, at her pleasure, She ec-

clipseth the light , and , in a Mo-
ment, leaues not a Clowde in the
Skie : in Her Thunders , and
Lightenings she shewes the Ter-
ror of the Highest Wrath, and in
Her temperate Calmes , the pa-
tience of his Mercy : in her frostie
Winters, she shewes the weaknes
of Nature , and in her Sunny
Springs , the Recouery of Her
health: in the Louers of this world
liues no part of her purenesse, but,
with Her beloued She makes a
Heauen vpon Earth: in the King,
she shewes her Grace,in his Coun-
cell, her Care , and , in his State,
her Strength: in the Souldior, she
shewes Vertue , the trueſt Valor,
in the Lawier, Truth, the Honor
of his Plea , in the Merchant,
Conscience , the wealth of his
Soule, and in the Church-man
Charity, the true fruit of his De-
uotion : She liues in the World,
but,

but, not the worlds Loue, for the Worldes vnworthiness, is not capable of her worth : Shee receiueth Mammon , as a gift from his Maker , and makes him serue her vse to his Glory : She giues Honor , Grace in Bounty , and, manageth wit, by the Care of discretion : She shewes the Neces-
ty of difference , and , wherein is the happinesse of Vnitie : Shee puts her Labor , to prouidence, her hope, to patience , her life, to her Loue, and, her Loue , to her Lord : with whom , as chiefe Se-
cretary of his secrets , she writes his will to the World, and as high Steward of his Courts, she keepes Account of all his Tenaunts : in Sum , so great is her Grace in the Heauens , as giues her Glory a-
boue the Earth , and , so Infinite, are her Excellencies , in all the Course of her Action , and , so

Glorious are the Notes of her Incomprehensible Nature, that, I will thus onely Conclude, farre short of her Commendation : She is Gods Loue , and his Angels Light, his Seruants , Grace, and His Beloueds Glory.

Learning.

Learning is the life of Reason, and the Light of Nature, where, Time, Order, and Measure, square out the true Course of Knowledge ; where, Discretion, in the Temper of Passion , brings experience to the best fruite of Affection : while, both, the *Theoricke*, and the *Practicke*, labour in the life of Judgement , till, the perfection of Art , shew the Honor of vnderstanding : She is the keie

keie of knowledge, that vnlocketh the Cabinet of Conceit, wherein are laide vp the Labours of Vertue, for the vse of the Schollers of Wisedome: where euery gratiouse Spirit may finde matter enough worthy of the Record of the best Memory: She is the Nurse of Nature, with that Milke of Reason, that, would make a Childe of Grace, neuer lie from the Dugge: Shee is the Schoole-mistris of Witte, and the gentle Gouernor of Will, when, the Delight of vnderstanding, giues the Comfort of Study: She is vnpleasing to none that knowes her, and vnprofitable, to none that loues her: She feares not to Wether feete, to Wade thorough the Waters of Comfort, but, comes not neere the Seas of Iniquitie, where, folly drownes Affection, in the delight of Vanity: She opens her Trea-

sures to the Trauailers in Vertue, but, keepes them close from the Eies of Idlenesse : She makes the King Gratiouse, and his Councell, Iudicious, his Clergie, Deuout, and, his Kingdome, prosperous : She gives Honor to Vertue, Grace, to Honor, Reward, to Labor, and, Loue, to Truth : She is the Messenger of Wisedome, to the mindes of the Vertuous, and, the Way to Honor, in the Spirits of the Gratiouse : She is the Storehouse of Vnderstanding, where the Affection of Grace, can not want Instrukcion of goodnesse, while, in the Rules of her directions, Reason is neuer out of square : She is the Exercise of Wit, in the application of Knowledge, and the preseruer of the vnderstanding, in the practise of Memory : In briefe, she makes Age honorable, and, youth Admirable:

mirable, the vertuous, wise, and the wise, gracious: Hir Libraries are infinite, hir lessons without number, hir instruction, without comparison, and hir Schollers without equalitie: In briefe, finding it a labyrinth, to go through the grounds of hir praise: Let this suffice, that in all Ages shee hath been, and euer will be, the Darling of wisdome, the delight of wit, the study of vertue, and the stay of knowledge.

Knowledge.

Knowledge is a Collection of vnderstanding, gathered in the grounds of Learning, by the instruction of Wisdome: Shee is the exercise of Memory, in the actions of the Minde, and the imployer

imployer of the Senses, in the will
of the Spirit: shee is the Notary
of Time, and the tryer of Truth,
and the labour of the Spirit in
the loue of Vertue: shee is the
pleasure of wit, and the paradise
of Reason, where Conceit gathe-
reth the sweet of Vnderstanding.
She is the Kings councellor, & the
Councells grace, Youths guarde,
and Ages glory: It is free from
doubts, and teares no danger,
while the care of Prouidence cuts
off the cause of Repentance:
shee is the enemy of Idlenesse,
and the maintayner of Labour,
in the care of credit, and pleasure
of profit: shee needs no aduice
in the Resolution of Action,
while Experience in obseruation,
findes perfection infallible: It
cleares Errors, and cannot be de-
ceiued, corrects Impuritie, and
will not bee corrupted: shee hath

hath a wide eare, and a close mouth, a pure eye, and a perfect heart: It is begotten by Grace, bred by Vertue, brought vp by Learning, and maintaine by Loue: Shee conuerseth with the best capacities, and communi-cates with the soundest Judg-ments, dwells with the diuineſt Natures, and loues the most pati-ent dispositions: Hir hope is a kind of Assurance, hir faith a con-tinuall expectation, hir loue an apprehension of Ioy, and hir life the light of Eternitie: Hir la-bours are infinite, hir wayes are vnsearcheable, hir Graces incom-parable, and hir Excellencies in-explicable: and therefore, being so little acquainted with hir worth, as makes me bluſh at my vnworthinesſe, to ſpeake in the leaſt of hir praise: I will onely leauē hir aduancement to Vertue,
hir

hir honour to Wisdome, hir grace
to Truth, and to Eternitie, hir
glory.

Practise.

Practise, is the Motion of the
Spirit, where the Sences are
all set to worke in their Natures,
where, in the fittest employment
of Time, Reason maketh the best
vse of vnderstanding: Shee is the
Continuance of knowledge in the
Ease of Memory, and the Honor
of Resolution in the effect of Iudg-
ment. Shee plants the Spring,
and reapes the Haruest, makes
labour sweet, and patience, com-
fortable: Shee hath a foot on the
earth, but, an eye at heauen, where
the prayer of faith findes the fel-
icitie

citie of the Soule : in the fruit of Charity, she shewes the nature of Devotion, and in the Mercy of Justice, the Glory of gouernment. Shee giues Time honour, in the fruit of Action, and Reason, grace, in the application of knowledge : She takes the height of the Sunne, walkes about the world, sounds the depth of the Sea, and makes her passage thorough the waters. She is ready for all occasions, attendeth all persons, works with all instruments, and finisheth all actions : Shee takes Invention for her teacher, makes time, her seruant, method her direction, and place her habitation : Shee hath a wakefull eye, and a working braine, which fits the members of the body, to the seruice of the spirit : Shee is the Physitians agent, and the Apothecaries benefactor, the Chirurgions wealth,
and

and the Patients, patience : Shee brings time, to labor, and care, to contentment: learning to knowledge, and vertue to honour: in Idlenessse shee hath no pleasure, nor acquaintance with Ignorance, but in Industry, is her delight, and in vnderstanding, her grace: Shee hath a passage thorough all the Predicaments, shee hath a hand in all the Artes, a property in all professions, and a qualitie in all conditions : in briefe, so many are the varieties of the manners of her proceedings, as makes me fearefull to follow her too farre in obseruation, lest, being neuer able to come neare the height of hir commendation, I be inforced, as I am, to leaue hir wholy to admiration.

Patience

Patience.

Patience is a kind of heauenly
Tenure, whereby the Soule
is held in possession, and a sweet
temper in the Spirit, which re-
straineth nature from exceeding
reason in passion. Hir hand keeps
time in his right course, and hir
eye pierceth into the depth of vnder-
standing: Shee attendeth wif-
dome in all hir works, and pro-
portioneth time, to the necessitie
of matter: Shee is the poyson of
Sorrow in the hope of Comfort,
and the paradise of conceit in the
joy of peace: Hir tongue speakes
seldome, but to purpose, and hir
foot goeth slowly, but surely:
Shee is the imitator of the Incom-
prehensible in his passage to per-
fection

fection, and a seruant of his will
in the mappe of his workman-
ship: in Confusion, Shee hath
no operation; while she only ca-
rieth hir conceit, with the consi-
deration of experience: Shee
trauailes farre, and is neuer wea-
ry; and giues ouer no worke, but
to better a beginning: Shee
makes the King mercifull, and the
Subiect loyall, Honour gracious,
and, Wisdome glorious: Shee
pacifieth wrath, and puts off re-
uenge, and, in the humilitie of
charitie, shewes the nature of
Grace: Shee is beloued of the
Highest, and imbraced of the wi-
fest, honoured with the worthiest,
and graced with the best: Shee
makes imprisonment, Liberty,
when the minde goeth thorough
the world, and in sicknesse findes
health, where death is the way to
life: Shee is an Enemie to pas-
sion

tion, and knowes no Purgatory ;
thinkes fortune a fiction, and
builds onely vpon Pronidence :
Shee is the sick-mans Salue, and
the whole mans preseruer : the
Wise-mans Staffe, and the good-
mans Guide : In summe, not to
wade too farre in hir worthinesse,
lest I be drownd in the depth of
wonder, I will thus end, in hir end-
lesse Honour : Shee is the grace
of Christ, and the vertue of Chri-
stianitie, the praise of Goodnesse,
and the preseruer of the world.

Love.

Love is the life of Nature, and
the joy of Reason, in the Spirit
of Grace; where virtue drawing
affection, the concord of
Sense, makes an union vnsepara-

C ble

ble in the diuine apprehension of the ioy of Election, it is a rauishment of the Soule, in the delight of the Spirit: which, being caried aboue it selfe, into inexplicable comfort, feeles that heauenly sicknesse, that is better than the worlds health, when the wiest of men, in the swounding delight of his sacred Inspiration, could thus vtter the sweetnesse of his passion: *My Soule is sicke of Love.* It is a healthfull sicknesse in the Soule, a pleasing passion in the Heart, a contentiue labour in the Minde, and a peacefull trouble of the Senses: it alters natures in contrarieties, when difficultie is made easie, paine made a pleasure, pouertry, riches, and imprisonment, liberty: for the content of conceit, which regards not to be an abiect, in being subiect, but to an obiect: it reioyceth in truth, and knowes

knowes no inconstancie, it is free from Ielou sie, and feareth no fortune: it breakes the rule of Arithmeticke, by confounding of number, where the coniunction of thoughts make one minde in two bodies, where neither figure, nor cipher, can make diuision of vnion: it sympathies with life, and participates with light, when the eye of the minde, sees the ioy of the heart: it is a predominat power, which endures no equalitie, and yet, commuticates with reason, in the rules of Concord: it breeds safety in a King, and peace, in a kingdome, Nations vnitie, and Natures gladnesse: It sings in labour, in the ioy of hope, and makes a paradise in reward of desert: it pleads but mercy, in the iustice of the Almighty; and but mutuall Amitie, in the nature of Humanitie: In

summe, hauing no Eagles eye, to looke vpon the Sunne, and fearing to looke too high, for feare of a chip in mine eye, I will in these few words, speake in praise of this peerelesse vertue: Loue is the grace of nature, and the glory of reason, the blessing of God, and the comfort of the world.

Peace.

PEACE, is a Calme in Conceit, where the Senses take pleasure, in the rest of the Spirit: It is Natures holy day after Reasons labour, and Wildoms musique in the Concords of the minde: It is a blessing of Grace, a bountie of Mercy, a proofe of Loue, and, a preseruer of life: It holds no Arguments, knowes no quarrells, is an

an enemie to sedition, and a continuance of Amitie : It is the root of plenty, the Tree of pleasure, the fruit of Loue, and the sweetnesse of life : It is like the still Night, where all things are at rest, and the quiet sleep, where dreams are not troublesome : or the resolued point, in the perfection of knowledge, where no cares, nor doubts make controuersies in opinion : it needs no watch, where is no feare of Enemy, nor Sollicitor of Causes, where Agreements are concluded : It is the intent of Law, and the fruit of Justice : the end of Warre, and the beginning of Wealth : It is a grace in a Court, and a glory in a Kingdom, a blessing in a Family, and a happinesse in a Commonwealth : It fills the rich mans cofers, and feeds the poore mans labour : It is the Wise-mans study,

and the Good-mans ioy : who loue it, are gracious, who make it, are blessed, who keep it are happy, and who breake it, are miserable : It hath no dwelling with Idolatry, nor friendship with falsehood, for hir life is in Truth, and in hir, all is *Amen*. But lest in the Iustice of Peace, I may rather be reprooued for my Ignorance of hir worth, then thought worthy to speake in hir prayse, with this only Conclusion, in the commendation of Peace, I will draw to an end, and hold my peace : It was a message of Ioy at the birth of Christ, a song of Ioy, at the embracement of Christ, an assurance of Ioy, at the death of Christ, and shall be the fulnesse of Ioy, at the coming of Christ.

Warre

Warre.

WARR is a scourge of the wrath of God, which by famine, fire, or sword, humbleth the spirits of the Repentant, tryeth the patience of the Faithfull, and hardneth the hearts of the vngodly: it is the misery of Time, and the terror of Nature, the dispeoupling of the Earth, and the ruine of hir Beauty: Hir life, is Action, hir food, Bloud, hir honour, Valor, and hir ioy, Conquest. Shee is Valors exercise, and Honors aduenture, Reasons trouble, and Peaces enemy: shee is the stout mans loue, and the weake mans feare, the poore mans toile, and the rich mans plague: shee is the Armourers Benefactor, and the

Chirurgions agent, the Cowards
ague, and the Desperats ouer-
throw : she is the wish of Enuy,
the plague of them that wish hir,
the shipwracke of life , and the
agent for death ; The best of hir
is, that shee is the seasoner of the
body , and the manager of the
minde, for the induring of labor,
in the resolution of action : shee
thunders in the Aire , rips vp the
Earth , cuts thorough the Seas,
and consumes with the fire : shee
is indeed the inuention of Ma-
lice, the worke of Mischief , the
musique of Hell, and the daunce
of the Deuill: she makes the end
of Youth vntinely , and of Age
wretched , the Cities sacke , and
the Countries beggery : shee is
the Captaines pride , and the
Captiues sorrow , the throat of
bloud, and the graue of flesh :
shee is the woe of the world , the
punish-

punishment of sinne, the passage of danger, and, the Messenger of destruction : she is the wise mans warning, and the fooles painment, the godly mans griefe, and, the wicked mans game : In summe, so many are her woundes, so mortall her cures, so daungerous her course, and, so deuillish her deuises, that, I will wade no further in her riuers of bloud, but, only, thus conclude in her description : she is Gods curse, and Mans miserie, hells Practise, and earthes Hell.

Valor.

VAlor is a Vertue in the spirit, which keepes the flesh in subiection : Resolues without feare, and trauailes without fainting :

ting : she vowes no villany, nor, breakes her fidelity, she is patient in captiuity, and pittifull in conquest : Her gaine is honor, and, desert her meane, fortune her skorne, and folly, her hate : wise-dome is her guide, and conquest her grace, clemency, her praise, and humilitie, her Glory : she is youthes ornament, and ages honor ; natures blessing, and Vertues loue : Her life is resolution, & her loue, victory, her triumph, truth, and her fame, vertue : Her armes are from antiquitie, and, her cote, full of honor, where, the title of grace, hath her Herauldry from heauen : she makes a walke of warre, and a sport of danger, an ease, of labour, and a Iest, of death : she makes famine, but abstinence, want, but, a patience, sickenesse, but a purge, and death, a pufse : she is the Maintainer of warre,

warre, the Generall of an army, the terror of an Enemy, and the glory of a campe: she is the Noblenesse of the minde, and the strength of the Body, the life of hope, and the death of feare: with a handfull of men, shee ouerthrowes a multitude, and with a sodaine amazement, she discomfites a Campe: she is the reuenge of wrong, and the defence of right, Religions Champion, and, vertues choise: In briefe, let this suffice in her commendation: she strengthened *David*, and conquered *Goliah*, she ouerthrowes her enemies, and conquers her selfe.

Resolution.

Resolution.

Resolution is the Honour of Valor, in the quarrell of Vertue, for the defence of Right, and Redreile of Wrongs: she, beates the March, pitcheth the Battail, plants the Ordinance, and Maintaines the fight: Her Eare is stopt from Disswasions, her Eie aimes only at Honor, her hand takes the Sword of Valor, and her heart thinkes of nothing, but victory: Shee giues the Charge, makes the Stand, Assaults the fort, and enters the Breach: Shee breakes the Pikes, faceth the Shot, dampes the Souldior, and defeates the Army: Shee looseth no time, flippes no Occasion, dreads no danger, and, Cares for no force; she

She is Valors lite , and vertues
Loue, iustice Honor , and, Mer-
cies Glorie : Shee beates downe
Castles , fires Shippes , Wades
thorough the Sea , and Walkes
thorough the World : She makes
Wisedome, her Guide , and Will,
her Seruant, Reason, her Compa-
nion, and Honor , her Mistris :
She is a Blessing in Nature, and a
Beauty, in Reason, a Grace in In-
vention, and , a Glory in Action:
She studies no plots , when her
platforme is set downe, and defers
no time , when her houre is pre-
fixed : Shee standes vpon no
helpes, when she knowes her own
force, and in the Execution of her
will, she is a Rocke Irremoueable:
She is the Kings Will , without
Contradiction , and the Judges
doome, without Exception , the
Schollers profession, without Al-
teration, and the Souldiers Honor
without

without Comparison: In Summe
so many are the groundes of her
Grace, and the iust Causes of her
Commendation, that, Leauing
her worth, to the discription of
better wits, I will in these fewe
wordes, conclude my Conceit of
her: She is the stoutnesse of the
heart, and the strength of the
minde, a gift of God, and, the
glory of the World.

Honor.

Honor is a Title of Grace,
given by the spirit of Ver-
tue, to the desert of Valor, in the
defence of Truth: it is wronged,
in basenesse, and abused in vn-
worthiness, endangered in wan-
tonnesse, and lost in wickednes:
It nourisheth Art, and crowneth
Wit,

Wit, graceth Learning , and glorieth Wisedome : in the Heraldry of Heauen , it hath the richest Cote, being, in Nature Al- lied, vnto all the houses of Grace, which in the Heauen of heauens, attend the King of kings : Her Escucheon is a heart , in which, in the shield of faith , she beares on the Anckor of Hope , the Helmit of Saluation: the quarters with Wisedome in the Resoluti- on of Valor , and in the line of Charitie , she is of the House of Iustice : Her Supporters are Time, and Patience , her Mantle, Truth, and her crest, Christ treading vpon the Globe of the world : her Imprese , *Corona mea , Christus* : In briefe , finding her state so high, that I am not able to climbe vnto the praise of her per- fection , I will leaue her Royalty to the Register of most Princely spirits.

spirits, and in my humble hearts
thus only deliuer my opinion of
her : She is Vertues due , and
Graces gilt, Valors wealth , and
Reasons ioy.

Truth.

TRUTH is the Glory of time,
and the daughter of Eterni-
ty : a Title of the highest Grace,
and, a Note of a diuine Nature :
she is the life of Religion , the
light of Loue, the Grace of Wit,
and the Crowne of Wisedome,
she is the Beauty of Valor , the
brightnesse of honor, the blessing
of reason , and the ioy of faith :
her truth is pure gold , her Time,
is right pretious, her word is most
gratiouse , and her will, is most
glorious : Her Eſſence is in God,
and

and, her dwelling with his ser-
uants, her will in his wisedome,
and her worke, to his Glory : she
is honored in loue , and graced in
constancie , in patience admired,
and in charity, beloued · she is the
Angels worshippe , the Virgins
fame , the Saints blisse, and the
Martirs crowne : she is the Kings
Greatnesse , and his Councels,
Goodnesse , his subiects Peace,
and his kingdomes Praise : she is
the life of learning , and the light
of the Law, the honor of Trade,
and the grace of labor : she hath
a pure Eye , a plaine hand , a
piercing wit and a perfect heart :
she is wisedomes walke in the way
of holinesse, and takes vp her rest,
but, in the resolution of goodnes:
Her tongue neuer trippes , her
heart neuer faintes, her hand ne-
uer failes, and her faith , neuer
feares : her Church is without

D schisme

schisme, her City without fraude,
her Court, without Vanity, and
her kingdome, without Villany :
In summe, so infinite is her Excel-
lence , in the construction of all
fence , that I will thus only con-
clude in the wonder of her worth:
she is the Nature of perfection, in
the perfection of Nature, where
God, in Christ , shewes the glory
of Christianity.

Time.

Time is a continuall Motion,
which from the highest
Moouer , hath his operation in
all the subiects of Nature, accor-
ding

ding to their qualitie, or disposition : He is in proportion, like a Circle, wherein, hee walketh with an euен passage, to the point of his prefixed place : Hee attendeth none, and yet is a servant to all; he is best emploied by wisedome, and, most abused, by foly : He carrieth both the sworde and the scepter, for the vse both of Justice, and Mercie : He is present in all Inuention, and, can not be spared from Action : He is the Treasury of Graces in the Memory of the wise, and, brings them forth to the world, vpon Necessity of their vse : He openeth the windowes of Heauen, to giue Light vnto the Earth, and, spreades the cloake of the Night to couer the Rest of labor : He closeth the Eie of Nature, and waketh the spirit of Reason, he trauelleth thorough

the minde, and is visible, but, to the Eie of Vnderstanding: He is swifter then the winde, and yet, as still, as a Stone, pretious in his right vse, but, perilous in the contrarie: He is soone founde of the carefull Soule, and quickly mist in the want of his comfort, he is soone lost in the lacke of Em- ploiment, and not to be recou- red without a world of Ende- uour: he is the true mans peace, and the Theeues perdition, the good mans blessing, and the wic- ked mans curse: He is knowne to be, but, his being vnowne, but only in his being, in a being a- boue knowledge: he is a Riddle not to be read, but in the circum- stance of description, his name, better knowne then his nature, and he that maketh best vse of him, hath the best vnderstanding fo him: he is like the study of the

Philoso-

Philosophers stone, where, a man may see wonders, and yet short of his Expectation: shee is at the Inuention of warre, Armes the Souldier, Maintaines the quarrell, and makes the Peace: Hee is the Courtiers Play-fellow, and, the Souldiers Schole-master, the Lawyers Gaine, and the Merchantes, Hope: His life, is Motion, and his loue Action, his honor, Patience, and his glory, perfection: He masketh Modestie and blusheth Virginitie, honoreth Humilitie, and graceth, Charitie: In Summe, finding it a world to walke thorough the wonder of his Worth, I will thus briefly deliuer, what I finde truely of him: Hee is the Agent of the Liuing, and the Register of the dead, the

Death.

DEATH is an ordinance of God, for the subiecting of the world, which is limited his time for the correction of Pride; in his substance, he is nothing, being but onely a depriuation, and in his true description, a name without a nature: He is seene, but in a picture: heard, but in a tale: feared, but in a passion: and felt, but in a pinch: He is a terror, but to the

the wicked, and a skar-crow, but to the foolish: but to the wise, a way of comfort, and to the godly, the gate to life: He is the ease of paine, and the end of sorrow, the liberty of the imprisoned, and the joy of the faithfull: it is both the wound of sinne, and the wages of sinne, the Sinners feare, and the Sinners doom. He is the Sextons agent, and the Hangmans reue-nue, the rich mans dirge, and the Mourners merry-day. Hee is a course of time, but vncertaine, till hee come, and welcome but to such, as are weary of their liues: It is a message from the Physitian, when the Patient is past cure, and if the writ be well made, it is a *supra sedes* for all diseases: It is the heauens stroke, and the earths Steward, the follower of sicknesse, and the forerunner to Hell. In

summe, hauing no pleasure to ponder too much of the power of it, I will thus conclude my opinion of it; It is a stinge of sinne, and the terror of the wicked, the crowne of the Godly, the staire of vengeance, and a stratagem of the Deuill.

Faith.

FAITH is the hand of the soule, which layeth hold of the promises of Christ in the mercy of the Almighty: Shee hath a bright eye, and a holy eare, a cleare

cleare heart, and a sure foot: shee
is the strength of Hope, the trust
of Truth, the honour of Amitie,
and the ioy of Loue: shee is rare
among the sonnes of men, and
hardly found among the daugh-
ters of weomen; but among the
sonnes of God, she is a conuey-
ance of their inheritance, and a-
mong the daughters of Grace, she
is the assurance of their portions.
Hir dwelling is in the Church of
God, hir conuersation with the
Saints of God, her delight with
the beloued of God, and her life is
in the loue of God: shee knowes
no falsehood, distrusts no Truth,
breakes no promise, and coines no
excuse, but as bright as the Sunne,
as swift as the winde, as sure as the
rocke, and as pure as the gold, she
lookes towards heauen, but liues
in the world, in the soules of the

Elect:

Elect, to the glory of Election :
she was wounded in Paradise, by a
dart of the Deuill, and healed of
her hurt, by the death of Christ
Iesus : shee is the poore mans cre-
dit, and the rich mans praise, the
wisemens care, and the good mans
cognizance. In summe, finding
her worth, in words hardly to be
expressed, I will in these few
words onely deliuer my opinion of
her : Shee is Gods blessing,
and mans blisse, reasons
comfort, and ver-
tues glory.

Feare

Feare.

FEARE is a fruit of sinne, which droue the first Father of our flesh, from the presence of God, and hath red an imperfection in a number of the worse part of his posteritie: It is the disgrace of nature, the foile of reason, the maime of wit, and the slur of vnderstanding: It is the palsie of the Spirit, where the Soule wanteth faith, and the badge of a Coward, that cannot abide the sight of a sword: It is weaknesse in nature, and a wound in patience, the death of hope, and the entrance into despaire: It is childdrens awe, and fooles amazement, a worme in conscience, and a curse to wick-ednesse. In briese, it makes the Coward

Coward stagger, the Lyer stammer,
the Thiefe stumble, and the
Traitor start: It is a blot in
Armes, a blur in Honour, the
shame of a Souldier, and
the defeat of an
Army.

F I N I S.



